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This is the forty sixth edition of the Periodic Electronic Newsletter (PEN) for MCI Mail users assigned to Oppenheimer Software (MCI Mail agency NY4). You may respond to the PEN by typing ANSWER at the COMMAND; line that appears after you read this. This mailbox (218-0241) is toll free - you may write to it as often as you wish, at no charge! (Please note that you may order a toll-free mail box - contact Oppenheimer Software for more information.)

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>>>>>>>>>>>>>>>>
1-800-I-WANT-MCI
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A new toll free *FAX* number is available for anyone wanting to set up accounts on MCI Mail:

1-800-I-WANT-MCI (1-212-787-2416 outside the USA)

The fax should include the name, address, phone and fax numbers of the requester. Typically, the account will be activated the following business morning. To help the new subscriber, a four page fax will be returned with the account information and basic starting instructions.

You can also use the NEWUSER script described below. However, this toll-free fax number can be used by anyone with access to a fax machine.

>>>>>>>>>>>>>>>>>>>>
NEED ANOTHER MAILBOX?
>>>>>>>>>>>>>>>>>>>>

The NEWUSER script has been used by hundreds of people to set their friends, associates and clients up on MCI Mail, add new mailboxes to existing accounts, or to request information on behalf of a colleague.

If you have a friend across town, or in another country who wants to benefit from electronic mail, or if you know of someone who tediously sends faxes out from a fax machine and is looking for a better way, or someone who sends letters and memos by overnight courier and would like to save some money, you can help them by introducing them to MCI Mail.

To use this feature, at the Command; prompt, type:

CREATE USING NEWUSER {ENTER}

Answer all questions, and follow the instructions at the end of the SCRIPT. You will be notified when the new mailbox/account is active.

Note. . . If you access MCI Mail via MCI Mail Express, or a LAN gateway, you may send the name, address and phone and fax number of the referral to mailbox 218-0241, or you may fax this information to 212-787-2416. We will contact them immediately and arrange for the account or mailbox.

Additionally, the *FAX* number 1-800-I-WANT-MCI is available for anyone looking to request information or establish an account for themselves.

>>>>>>>>>>>>>>>>>>>>>>>>>>>>>>>>
E-MAIL TO COMPUSERVE - AN UPDATE
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The July 1993 issue of the PEN Newsletter announced that MCI Mail and Compuserve had established an X.400 gateway to improve the previously existing connection. These improvements included:

Compliance with the international messaging standard and support for

future X.400 enhancements

Compuserve users could reach non-ONR remote users on MCI Mail

Binary files, as well as text files could be exchanged.

Larger files, up to 2 megabytes could be transmitted from MCI Mail to Compuserve. Compuserve still limits outbound messages to 50K. (Between MCI Mail subscribers, the limit is 3 megabytes)

Some users, unfamiliar with X.400 addressing formats, tried to send messages to Compuserve users via the Internet. At that time, MCI blocked the sending of Internet messages to Compuserve.

This block no longer exists. However, messages sent via Internet to Compuserve are stilled blocked by Compuserve. As a result, a user attempting to send messages to Compuserve users will find that MCI successfully delivers the message to the Internet, but the Compuserve subscriber will not receive it.

Therefore, if you want to get your message through to the Compuserve recipient, you will want to use X.400 addressing.

The proper format for addressing messages to Compuserve is as follows:

```
TO:  {recipient name}              TO:  Sam Smith
EMS: Compuserve             OR     EMS: Compuserve
MBX: P=CSMail                      MBX: P=CSMAIL
MBX: D=ID={recipient CIS ID}       MBX: D=ID=12345,6789
```

MCI Mails new "expert mode addressing" (see PEN #43 for more details) lets you write the entire X.400 address on a single line in either of the two formats below:

For example:
TO: A=CompuServe;D=ID=12345,6789;P=CSMail
or
TO: A=CompuServe/D=ID=12345,6789/P=CSMail

You can be assured that messages sent via the X.400 connection to CompuServe will be not affected by many of the problems affecting e-mail sent to Internet users (see Internet article below).

>>>>>>>>>>>>>>>>>>>
MAILPLUS FOR WINDOWS
>>>>>>>>>>>>>>>>>>>

A new, very exciting Windows based MCI Mail communications package is now available.... and it packs a number of features not found in other Windows based systems.

The MailPlus desktop metaphor includes a variety of "intelligent" icons to guide the user. For example, the foldering system is accessed by clicking on the filing cabinet. While you are in the filing cabinet, the drawers of the cabinet remain open... they close when you exit the folders. MailPlus also includes a viewer that invokes outside applications based on the type of file sent to you. For example, if you

receive a spreadsheet file, selecting the VIEW option within the ATTACH function will start up your spreadsheet program, displaying the spreadsheet received.

The address book is alias oriented - you select the proper address based on the alias that you provide for an address (although you can search using the full name too). Visually, the address book looks like the "little black book" in your pocket that you might keep your penciled addresses in. To go to a specific letter of the alphabet, simply click on that letters "tab" that extends from the pages of the book. Addresses can be sorted either by the recipients full name or alias. In addition, MailPlus automatically updates the address book with the sender's address when messages are received!

MailPlus can automatically classify incoming messages into user folders for storage, by scanning the messages' sender and subject lines for previously specified keywords. Folders can be configured to purge messages automatically after a specified numbers of days, weeks or months. This valuable tool can help to keep you from exhausting your disk space with no longer needed messages.

MailPlus includes a number of data files (country codes for fax and telex, X.400 information, etc.) that can be updated from CMS's bulletin board service.

A very interesting example of these files is the X.400 information stored in MailPlus. If you add a new X.400 address into the address book, MailPlus will not only provide a pull down listing of all of the X.400 domains that MCI interconnects to, but once you have selected the proper X.400 service, a different pull down will list many of the known customers of that service.

For example, if you need to send a message to someone at DEC in Switzerland, MailPlus will help you locate the Swiss E-Mail service (ARCOM) and will then help you identify the private domain name for DEC (DECBE). While not all of the e-mail services have client names listed, there are enough to help you locate many of your correspondents.

Its HELP system is very thorough - it not only contains the textual information, it also includes actual screen images highlighting the feature itself. This allows the help screens to address some conceptual issues graphically (such as an explanation of MCIs X.400 interconnection to other e-mail services).

Internally, MailPlus uses the industry standard dBASE file format - providing developers with an easy tool for developing custom applications. MailPlus requires Windows 3.1 or Windows for Workgroups.

Mailplus retails for $99.95. As a special offer to PEN Newsletter readers, a fully functional evaluation copy of MailPlus, normally $10, is available at no charge for you to examine for 30 days.

To order a MailPlus, or the trial evaluation copy, please send a message to Computer Mail Services (MCI ID: 178-2059), and include your name, address and phone number in the message. You must put the phrase "PEN SPECIAL OFFER" in the subject field of the message to take advantage of the discount.

>>>>>>>>>>>>>>>
Federal SOAPBOX
>>>>>>>>>>>>>>>

The opening words of the Constitution: "We The People...." are the bedrock words that tell us that it is the governed who control the government, and to be absolutely sure of that, the *first* Article of the Bill of Rights says that "Congress shall make no law....abridging the freedom of speech, ...or ... the right of the people to peaceably assemble, and to petition the Government for a redress of grievances".

It is not only the duty of each citizen to vote in the elections, but it is also the obligation of each voter to inform their elected officials of their thoughts, desires and expectations.

Unfortunately, the Government of the United States has become so large that, with the exception of the President, and possibly a Congressman or Senator, the average person is at a loss when trying to figure out who to address a grievance to.

Federal Soapbox, a new software package (actually, a contact manager) designed for businesses and organizations that need to address government issues, is so simple to use that individuals may well be tempted to use it to exercise their Article One rights. Indeed, the package includes a copy of the Constitution, the Bill of Rights, The Declaration of Independence, the Freedom of Information Act, the Privacy Act, etc for your reference.

Federal Soapbox is a mailmerge oriented word processing program with a gateway to MCI Mail. Its databases included the postal, fax and phone information for more federal bureaucrats than you can ever hope to shake a stick at. You could send high a volume of messages by MCI Letter, MCI Overnight Letter, or by Fax Dispatch to entire departments (over 1000!) or to any of 3000 individual in the Federal Government. Although sending an important fax to an entire Committee can normally take hours, that same message can be sent to the same number of individuals in a fraction of the time using Federal SoapBox.

Organizations using Federal SoapBox streamline the process of communicating with government officials, and are able to shift resources to other tasks because they no longer have to handle list maintenance and mail and fax distribution in-house.

Federal SoapBox, a contact manager of key Washington decision makers, combines an extensive database of Federal Government contacts, detailed information about those contacts, and sophisticated messaging utilities to help influence government policy. Offered with database updates, Federal Soapbox enables business owners, CEO's, corporate Government Affairs Directors, Association Directors, community builders and even tax payers to streamline their governmental relations and lobbying efforts.

Federal SoapBox initially displays a flow chart of all three branches of the Federal Government. For example, when clicking on the Executive branch, a new chart appears, divided into the Executive Office of the President, the Cabinet and the Independent Agencies.

More than just lists of people, Federal SoapBox includes information about every major power center in the government, such as jurisdiction,

description, regional office listings, important phone and fax numbers, procurement numbers, personnel locators, committee and subcommittee jurisdictions, freedom of information and privacy act numbers, fraud and abuse numbers, and much more.

Mailing lists constructed in Federal SoapBox may be exported as ASCII or comma-delimited files, allowing you to import them into other software programs.

As the staff and structure of the Federal Government is constantly changing, Federal SoapBox is sold as a subscription service ($49/year). Every three months you are sent new databases on disk, keeping them up to date on the latest changes in government staff and structure.

For further information about Federal SoapBox, or to order a copy, please send a message to MCI ID:594-2208.

>>>>>>>>>>>>>>>>
INTERNET ADVISORY
>>>>>>>>>>>>>>>>

Originally intended as a network interconnecting academic and government facilities to facilitate research, the Internet has grown to become a world wide, loosely knit web of thousands of interconnected computer networks. No one "owns" the Internet; it is managed by volunteers. There is no central customer support to turn to when having a problem nor is there an organization that controls the flow of a message.

When you send a message to another MCI Mail subscriber, your message travels from your computer, to the MCI Mail system. It is then posted to the recipients mailbox, usually within seconds. Throughout its travels, the message has never "left" MCI Mail, and absolutely no one has had access to the message except the recipient.

However, messages sent over the Internet typically travel through several networks on their way to the final destination. These networks may be university computer systems, corporate networks, etc. A delay at any of the networks visited by your message will delay the final delivery of your message - in some cases, by many hours or days. Furthermore, many of these systems may lack the security checks that are offered by MCI Mail.

Although casual messages can be sent through the Internet, confidential (legal correspondence, personal data, etc.) or time critical messages (purchase orders, reservations, etc.) should never be sent via the Internet unless there is absolutely no alternative. When sending messages through the Internet, you should do so with the understanding that someone *may* read the message as it goes network hopping.

According to UNIX WORLD, "The Internet is a nonswitched public network. You have little control over where your data goes on its journey, and sending sensitive information, such as passwords or credit card numbers, is both foolish and dangerous."

>>>>>>>>>>>>>>>>>>>

1988-X.400 Standards
>>>>>>>>>>>>>>>>>>>

MCI has announced the commercial availability of it's second generation X.400 message transfer agent, XChange 400, providing commercial support for 1988-compliant X.400 electronic messaging services.

MCI's new XChange 400 platform supports numerous features and functions, such as X.500 based message routing, "intelligent routing" of messages down to the Organization Unit level, support of the National Institute of Standards and Technology (NIST) delivery time recommendations and the relay of X.435 (EDI) traffic.

In addition to the above features, the service also has the capability to support "blank" or single space ADMD. As an active participant in the U.S. National Message Transfer Service Implementors (US-NMTS), MCI is committed to the support of this capability and will release the feature for commercial use when the US-NMTS pilot testing has been successfully completed.

>>>>>>>>>>>>>>>>>>>>>>>>>>>>>>>
XMODEM and YMODEM NOW AVAILABLE
>>>>>>>>>>>>>>>>>>>>>>>>>>>>>>>

[NOTE: THIS ARTICLE DOES NOT APPLY TO YOU IF YOU ACCESS MCI MAIL VIA A LAN OR MAINFRAME, OR IF YOU ARE USING MCI MAIL EXPRESS, LOTUS EXPRESS, THE WIRE, MAILROOM OR MAILPLUS]

More than a decade ago, Ward Christensen created, and released to the public domain, a block oriented, error checking file transfer protocol called XMODEM. The data was sent in blocks of 128 bytes with error validating information following every block. XMODEM offered 99% accuracy.

Soon, a variant, called YMODEM appeared on the scene. YMODEMs prime advantage was that its blocks were 1K long, thereby speeding up the file transfer process. Kermit (yes.. as in the frog) soon appeared from Columbia University in New York. Although slow, Kermit did support binary files between 7 bit and 8 bit systems... something the other protocols could not do.

Eventually, ZMODEM appeared... a very fast, very reliable protocol. ZMODEM, along with Kermit were made available on MCI Mail last year, and have met the needs of most people.

However, some people have found that their communications program does not support ZMODEM, and have found the speed of Kermit annoying. To meet their needs, Xmodem and Ymodem file transfer protocols are now fully supported on MCI Mail.

Xmodem and Ymodem file transfer protocols are used in exactly the same manner as the Zmodem and Kermit. However XMODEM and YMODEM are only available if you access MCI Mail via the 1-800-456-6234 number. They are not available through Global Access or Datapak.

Sending a binary file is a very simple process. After CREATing the message, type /UPLOAD BINARY xxx (where xxx is XMODEM, YMODEM, ZMODEM or

KERMIT) on a new line and press {ENTER}.

Then initiate the "send file" function of your program (often, pressing the {PAGE UP} key), select the proper protocol and enter the file name. When the transfer has completed, press {ENTER}/{ENTER} as you normally would to complete the message.

Receiving a binary file is equally simple. After SCANning the inbox, type /DOWNLOAD BINARY xxx and follow the similar download instructions.

For more details on binary file transfers, please send a note to mailbox 234-9875.

>>>>>>>>>>>>>>>>>>>>>>>>>>>>>>>>
DOW JONES TIME CHARGES ELIMINATED
>>>>>>>>>>>>>>>>>>>>>>>>>>>>>>>>

[NOTE: THIS ARTICLE DOES NOT APPLY TO YOU IF YOU ACCESS MCI MAIL VIA A LAN OR MAINFRAME]

PC Magazine recently described the Dow Jones News Retrieval service as offering "a rich load of on-line business news, financial data and general information", and ended by saying that "If business is your business, then Dow Jones is your on-line service"

Effective April 1, 1994, Dow Jones News/Retrieval Service pricing for MCI Mail customers who are registered in the United States will change. DJNR's new pricing will:

* eliminate connect time charges,

* eliminate time of day and baud rate differentials,

* eliminate the surcharge for selecting ALL when using the //TEXT and //TEXTM library,

* charge at the rate of $1.50 per thousand characters received by the user including spaces, line breaks, etc.,

* round information units to the nearest tenth of a kilocharacter.

Special fees associated with certain information services and document charges still apply.

For many users, this will result in lower Dow Jones bills.

Pricing changes do not affect customers whose MCI Mail accounts are registered outside of the US; however, information units and connect time charges will be rounded to the nearest tenth of kilocharacter or nearest tenth of a minute, respectively.

When accessing the DOW Jones News Retrieval System, the //USAGE command provides up to the minute information on your current session, including detail on each of the services that you accessed... valuable in making the best use of your time.

For example:

//USAGE

```
ESTIMATED USAGE - This session                                  //USAGE
(free)          1,000 characters:  N/A
Time: 1 min.
//TEXTM ($)             1,000 characters:  0                    (ALL)
Time: 1 min.
//USAGE (free)          1,000 characters:  N/A
Time: 1 min.
//OAG                   1,000 characters:  8
Time: 3 min.
-END-
```

>>
AUTOMATED CLIENT BILLING TRACKING FOR LANS
>>

Advanced Productivity Software, Inc. has released E-Mail LookUp, a software package designed to simplify addressing for MCI Mail services from a variety of LAN gateway.

This software was developed specifically for use by law firms and other professional firms to facilitate cost recovery for electronic mail messages. The address book can store default client and matter billing codes for each recipient and these codes can be easily changed for a particular message where required.

E-Mail LookUp automatically passes billing codes along with the address so MCI Mail invoices can separate charges by client and matter number. This enables firms to account for their electronic mail and fax traffic and accurately recover the cost from their clients.

E-Mail LookUp provides address books that can be maintained for individual or system-wide use. Address information for all MCI Mail delivery services, including electronic mail, fax, telex and paper mail can be stored by E-Mail LookUp's address book. Users simply select a recipient name and delivery method from a pop-up list. E-Mail LookUp then takes the relevant address information from the address book and fills out the "To:" line in the users' electronic mail software. This eliminates the need for users to enter the complicated address lines required by gateways to create an MCI Mail address.

E-Mail LookUp is currently compatible with the DOS versions of WordPerfect Office, Lotus cc:Mail, MS Mail, Da Vinci eMAIL and most MHS compatible mail packages. The software license costs $295 per file server.

Please send a message to MCI ID:607-6139 if you would like some additional information about E-Mail LookUp or would like to order a copy.

>>>>>>>>>>
POWER USER

>>>>>>>>>>

Before you use Federal SoapBox to write about an issue, you should first read the proposed legislation. To order a directory of documents available from the White House, you may send an e-mail message to:

To: publications
EMS: INTERNET
MBX: publications@whitehouse.gov

The subject line should be blank. Four commands are available for retrieving information:

help -Return a Help file

topic STRING -Return a list of files and file numbers with the specified string in their title.

send file NUMBER - Will send you the specified file. The file number is returned as part of a "topic" request.

send index - Will send you the complete file index from the server in a series of 10 files.

The last line of the message should read: EOT

Example of retrieving a document on the NAFTA treaty:

Subject:

topic nafta
EOT

Once the message has been sent with a topic request, a reply will arrive with matching files listed, such as:

>Matching Filenames:
>-------------------
>File-# Name
>158737 pub/political-science/.cap/nafta (53 bytes)
>168963 pub/political-science/nafta/full-text/surge.txt (3401 bytes)
>169033 pub/political-science/nafta/full-text/.cache (6029 bytes)
>168966 pub/political-science/nafta/full-text/chap-03.txt (94543 bytes)

Supposing you want a copy of the "surge.txt" file, you would send a request to the publications server as follows:

Subject:

send file 168963
EOT

>>>>>>>>>>>>>>
TILL NEXT TIME
>>>>>>>>>>>>>>

Gary.......
MCI Mail Agency NY4
MCI ID# 218-0241
Fax: 212-787-2416
Telex: 6502180241
Tel No. 212-724-9785

Gary Oppenheimer	Sales Office	212-724-9785	MCI ID:218-0241	
Carol Hayes	Customer Support	301-695-5378	MCI ID:234-9875	
MCI Mail NY4	Fax Number	212-787-2416		
New account registration fax number		800-I-WANT-MCI		